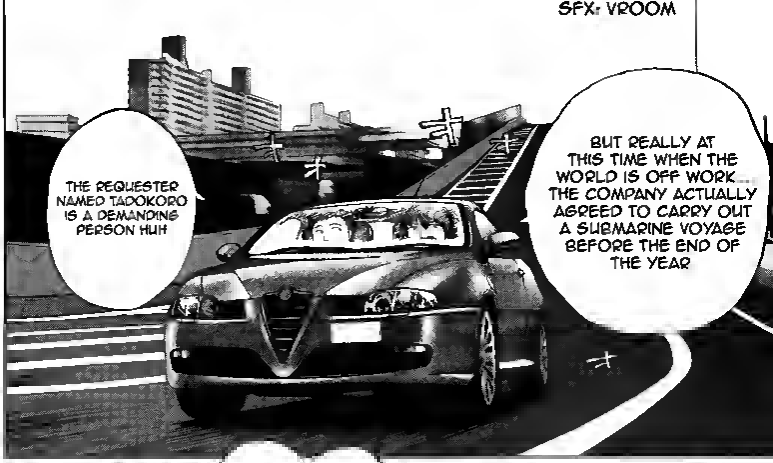
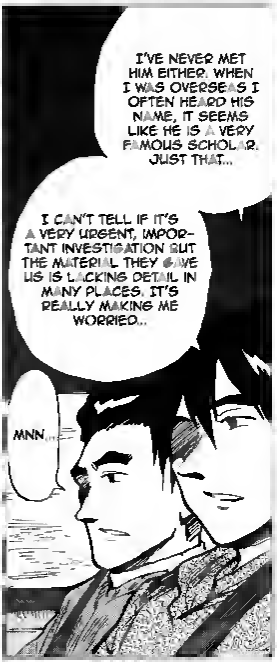
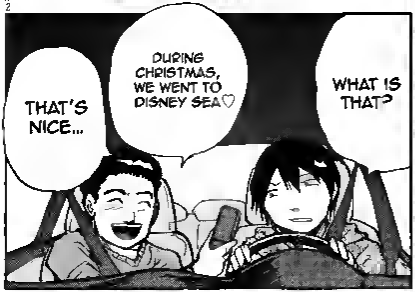
CHAPTER 10: PART 2/ ONODERA TOSHIO

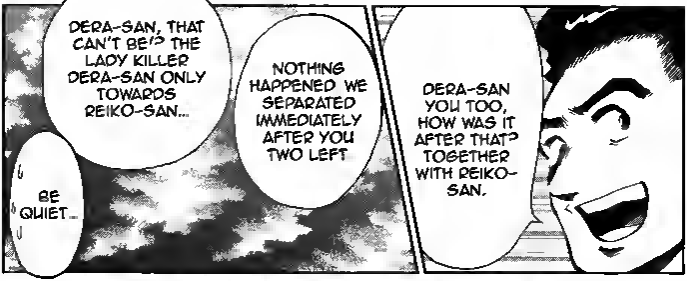

SFX: VROOM
THE REQUESTER NAMED TADOKORO IS A DEMANDING PERSON HUH
BUT REALLY AT THIS TIME WHEN THE WORLD IS OFF WORK... THE COMPANY ACTUALLY AGREED TO CARRY OUT A SUBMARINE VOYAGE BEFORE THE END OF THE YEAR

OH?
I'VE ALWAYS LOOKED FORWARD TO RIDING IN YOUR PASSENGER SEAT
JUST AS EXPECTED, DERA-SAN'S DRIVING IS REALLY GOOD


I'VE NEVER MET HIM EITHER. WHEN I WAS OVERSEAS I OFTEN HEARD HIS NAME, IT SEEMS LIKE HE IS A VERY FAMOUS SCHOLAR. JUST THAT...
I CAN'T TELL IF IT'S A VERY URGENT, IMPORTANT INVESTIGATION BUT THE MATERIAL THEY GAVE US IS LACKING DETAIL IN MANY PLACES. IT'S REALLY MAKING ME WORRIED...
MNN...

MANAMI-CHAN AND I
THAT'S RIGHT, DERA-SAN, LOOK AT THIS!


THAT'S NICE...
DURING CHRISTMAS, WE WENT TO DISNEY SEA♡
WHAT IS THAT?


DERA-SAN, THAT CAN'T BE!? THE LADY KILLER DERA-SAN ONLY TOWARDS REIKO-SAN...
NOTHING HAPPENED WE SEPARATED IMMEDIATELY AFTER YOU TWO LEFT
DERA-SAN YOU TOO, HOW WAS IT AFTER THAT? TOGETHER WITH REIKO-SAN.
BE QUIET...

"ONODERA-KUN"
"WILL I SEE YOU AGAIN?"

"I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU..."

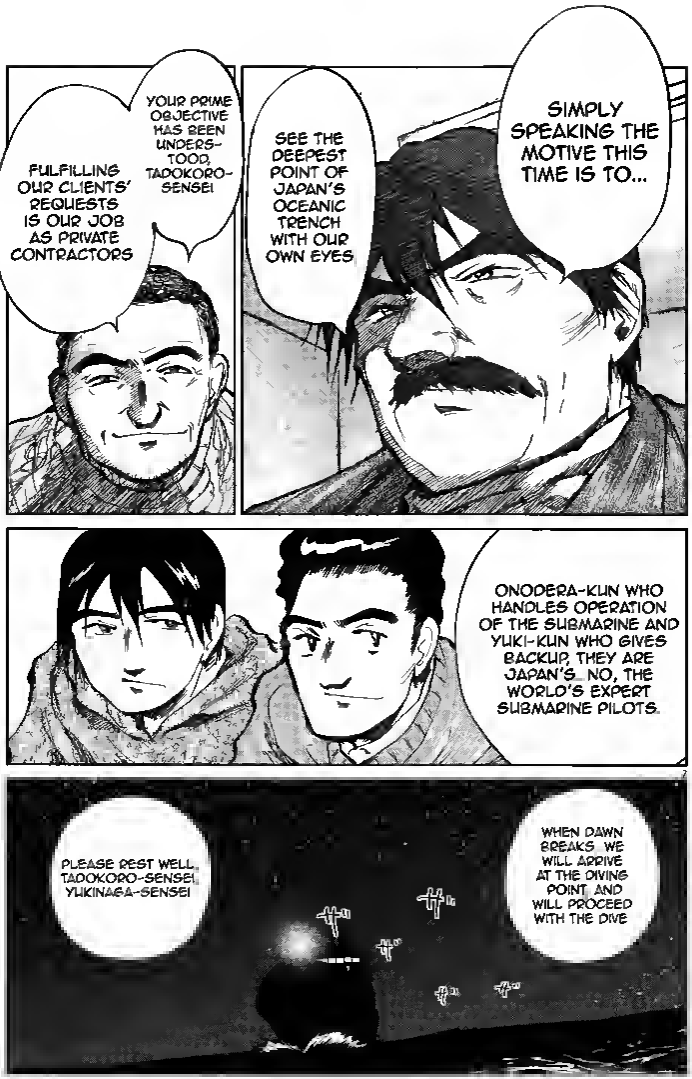
RUMBLE
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

RUMBLE
PUNCTUAL AS USUAL EH. IT'S GOOD THAT I DON'T HAVE TO WORRY.
ONODERA-KUN, YUKI-KUN.
SLAM
HELLO CAPTAIN. WE ARE IN YOUR CARE!
RUMBLE
RUMBLE

AH, IT LOOKS LIKE THE CLIENT HAS ARRIVED.
IT FEELS LIKE TODAY'S WORK WILL GO VERY SMOOTHLY
BUT, THAT IS JUST A CONVENIENT THING TO SAY, REMAIN!!
KEKE, SO IT IS! IT HAS NOTHING TO DO WITH EVIDENCE! THAT IS WHAT I BELIEVE!
HUHHH?
OH HO!! IT'S BEEN A WHILE, ONODERA-KUN AND YUKI-KUN.
IT TOOK A LOT OF CONVINCING YOUR EXECUTIVE OFFICE, FINALLY I GET TO SEE YOU BOTH.
I AM TADO-KORO.
PEOPLE CALL ME A GEOPHYSICS SCHOLAR.
THIS PERSON IS YUKINAGA, A MARINE GEOLOGY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR AT M UNI-VERSITY
I'M YUKI-NAGA. I'M IN YOUR CARE.
EEEHH.. AREN'T YOU THE OJI-SAN FROM THAT TIME IN SHINJUKU?
THIS IS AMA... AMAZING RIGHT DERA-SAN!! HAHAHAA!!

REGARDING THIS SUBMARINE VOYAGE...
ヌーデブランク
NUDIBRANCH
JUST AS REQUESTED EARLIER,
PLEASE FORGIVE ME NOT GIVING DETAILS WHILE ON BOARD THIS SHIP,
I WILL ONLY SAY THE DIVING POINT AND THE DEPTH

PR NOTE: LET US JUST TAKE A MINUTE TO READ NUDIBRANCH OUTLOUD...


SIMPLY SPEAKING THE MOTIVE THIS TIME IS TO...
SEE THE DEEPEST POINT OF JAPAN'S OCEANIC TRENCH WITH OUR OWN EYES.
YOUR PRIME OBJECTIVE HAS BEEN UNDERSTOOD, TADOKORO-SENSEI
FULFILLING OUR CLIENTS' REQUESTS IS OUR JOB AS PRIVATE CONTRACTORS
ONODERA-KUN WHO HANDLES OPERATION OF THE SUBMARINE AND YUKI-KUN WHO GIVES BACKUP, THEY ARE JAPAN'S. NO, THE WORLD'S EXPERT SUBMARINE PILOTS.
WHEN DAWN BREAKS, WE WILL ARRIVE AT THE DIVING POINT, AND WILL PROCEED WITH THE DIVE
PLEASE REST WELL, TADOKORO-SENSEI, YUKINAGA-SENSEI

TAP
TAP
TAP
STEP
TAP
CLACK TAP
TAP
ONSEN MANJU, MNN?
WANT SOME MANJU?
NO THANKS.

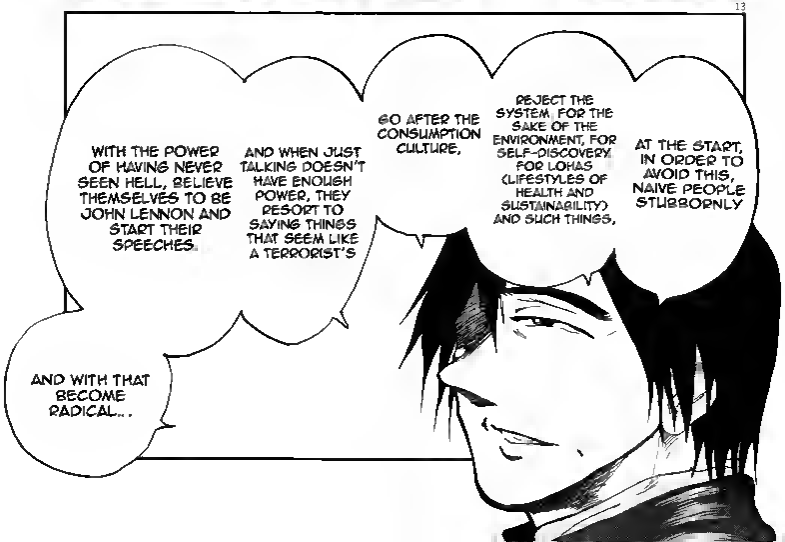
MNN, LIKE THAT HUH
BUT YOU KNOW, I NEVER THOUGHT THAT BEFORE A DIVE, THE PILOT WOULD PERSONALLY CHECK ALL THE SENSORS' BACKUP SYSTEMS
WHAT A RELIABLE PERSON, MNN
MUNCH
MUNCH
JUST AS EXPECTED OF THE PERSON I PICKED..
EXCUSE ME, RESEARCHER WHO IS TAGGING ALONG, WON'T YOU PLEASE GO BACK AND REST PROPERLY? TOMORROW'S PROGRAM IS NOT THAT RELAXED
YOU DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT I'VE ALREADY EXPERIENCED THIS SORT OF SUBMARINE INVESTIGATION MORE THAN TEN TIMES
WADATSUMI
9000
WHAT'S WRONG ONODERA-KUN, YOU'RE BEING SO COLD DIDN'T WE GO THROUGH THE "SHINJUKU DISASTER" TOGETHER? WHY DON'T WE HAVE A HEART-TO HEART JUST LIKE THAT TIME ..
IT-IS-BECAUSE-OF-THAT-THAT-I-DON'T-LIKE-YOU YOU CAN'T EVEN REALISE THAT HMN?
A HEART-TO-HEART YOU SAY? ALL RIGHT
IN THAT CASE I'LL PUT ASIDE WORK MATTERS, AND SPEAK MY MIND.
WHEN I FOUND OUT THAT THE 'BRUTE FORCE REQUESTER' WAS YOU OSSAN, I FELT SICK.
AN ADULT WHO ISN'T YOUNG ANYMORE, WITH ENOUGH MONEY SAYS "NO MATTER WHAT I WANT TO SEE THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA"..?
REALLY, THE PEOPLE IN THIS COUNTRY ARE ALL LIKE THIS..
MNN...
THIS COUNTRY? WHAT IS IT?
THIS COUNTRY

THIS COUNTRY WAS DOOMED LONG AGO.
EVERYONE KNOWS IT, BUT NO ONE IS ATTEMPTING TO DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT. THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN DO EITHER.
OSSAN, SINCE YOUR NAME IS WELL KNOWN OVERSEAS YOU SHOULD UNDERSTAND RIGHT?
I THINK THAT THOSE WHO ARE ABLE TO LOOK AT JAPAN FROM THE OUTSIDE WORLD'S PERSPECTIVE WILL ALL UNDERSTAND.
JAPAN HAS QUIETLY OVER TIME, BECOME A DEGENERATE SHAMEFUL COUNTRY... RIGHT.

I ACCUMU-LATED A LOT OF EXPERIENCES OVERSEAS, THEN RETURNED TO JAPAN TO WORK...
BUT FROM WHAT I SEE, THIS IS A COUNTRY WHERE NOT A SINGLE PERSON UNDERSTANDS HOW TO USE MONEY
THEY BELIEVE THAT JUST BY PAYING, ANYTHING THEY WANT TO DO CAN BE DONE JUST LIKE YOU
"THE INDIVIDUAL'S FREEDOM" SEEMS TO BE THEIR SLOGAN
HENCE THOSE WITH POWERFUL SAY, AND WHO HAVE INFLUENCED SOCIETY,
ARE ALL JUST IDIOTS AND OTAKUS.
THEY ARE UN-PRODUCTIVE, JUST RUSHING TO GORGE THEMSELVES ON FOOD AND DRINK, CONSUMING NON-STOP.

NO ONE WILL LOOK INTO THE EYES OF ANOTHER PERSON WHEN THEY TALK, THEY ARE ATTENTIVELY FACING OTHER THINGS,
TELEVISION SCREENS, PC SCREENS, SCREENS OF GAMING DEVICES AND SCREENS OF MOBILE PHONES
HOW DISGU-STING
GIVEN THIS SITUATION, SOME WHO SEE THROUGH THESE THINGS, AND WHO ATTEMPT TO TAKE ACTION, PEOPLE WITH AMBITION AND ABILITY,
ORIGINALLY THINKING THEY WILL BE WORSHIPPED AND PRAISED,
BUT INSTEAD THE RESULT IS THE REVERSE AND THEY ARE CRITICIZED, HARASSED,
TORMENTED AS THEY ARE CUT APART UNTIL THEY CAN'T RECOVER OR EVEN DIE. WEARING THOSE FAINT SMILES THROUGHOUT IT ALL.

THIS COUNTRY HAS NONE OF THE ROOTS OF A "COUNTRY".
THE OPPOSITION IS THE SAME, THERE IS NOT A SINGLE PERSON WITH THE ABILITY TO POINT OUT WHERE THE PROBLEM LIES.
Well, that's right!
That is your clever play on words right!
That's right!
That's right!
EVEN THE PRIME MINISTER STRATEGICALLY PRETENDS TO BE STUPID, SAYING SOME RIDICULOUS THINGS TO ESCAPE
BECAUSE EVERYONE HAS SEEN THROUGH THIS COUNTRY,
What I say I'll do, I will do
I will do


WITH THE POWER OF HAVING NEVER SEEN HELL, BELIEVE THEMSELVES TO BE JOHN LENNON AND START THEIR SPEECHES.
AND WHEN JUST TALKING DOESN'T HAVE ENOUGH POWER, THEY RESORT TO SAYING THINGS THAT SEEM LIKE A TERRORIST'S
GO AFTER THE CONSUMPTION CULTURE,
REJECT THE SYSTEM, FOR THE SAKE OF THE ENVIRONMENT, FOR SELF-DISCOVERY, FOR LOHAS (LIFESTYLES OF HEALTH AND SUSTAINABILITY) AND SUCH THINGS,
AT THE START, IN ORDER TO AVOID THIS, NAIVE PEOPLE STUBBORNLY
AND WITH THAT BECOME RADICAL...

.....
.....
BUT IN REALITY, THEY ARE EXACTLY THE SAME AS IDIOTS AND OTAKUS
HMM
I CAN'T DIS- AGREE
HMM
WHAT'S WRONG?

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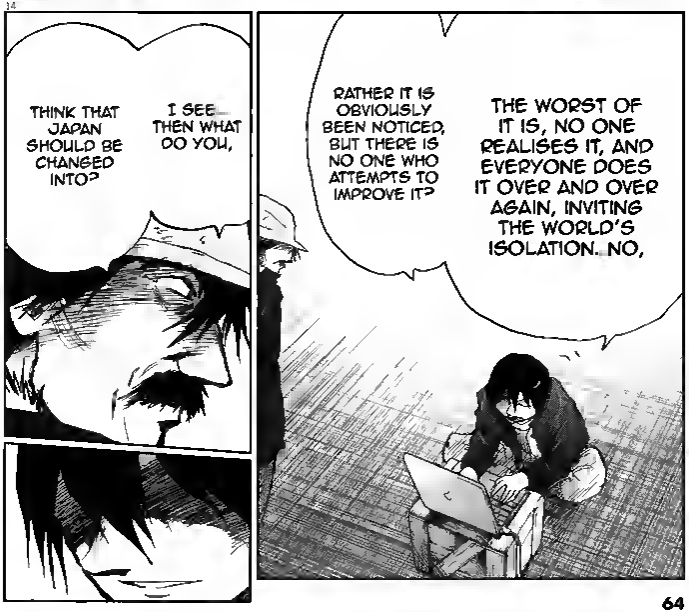
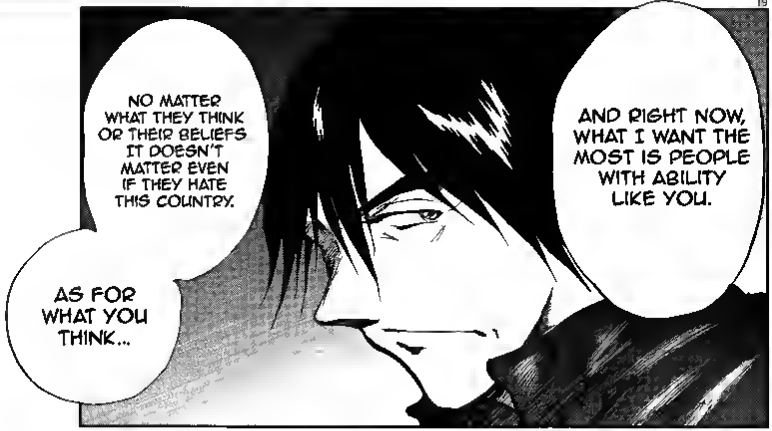

I SEE THEN WHAT DO YOU THINK THAT JAPAN SHOULD BE CHANGED INTO?
RATHER IT IS OBVIOUSLY BEEN NOTICED, BUT THERE IS NO ONE WHO ATTEMPTS TO IMPROVE IT?
THE WORST OF IT IS, NO ONE REALISES IT, AND EVERYONE DOES IT OVER AND OVER AGAIN, INVITING THE WORLD'S ISOLATION. NO,

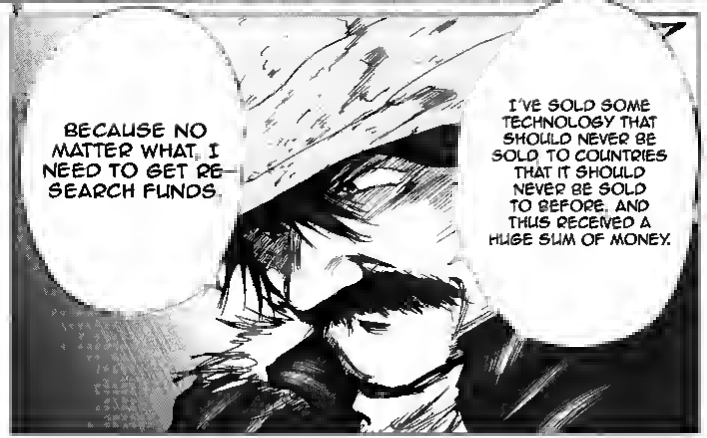
THIS KIND OF COUNTRY,
WOULD BE BETTER DESTROYED.
NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS TO THIS COUNTRY, I CAN SURVIVE ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD

I KNOW THIS VERY WELL. WHAT I SAY, WILL MAKE PEOPLE FEEL THAT I HAVE A LOT OF PROBLEMS.
BUT YOU SAID A HEART-TO-HEART. SO I SAID IT.

.....
I DIDN'T WANT TO SAY IT OUT IN THE FIRST PLACE
THEN, MY REASONING IS THAT I BELIEVE THIS IS THE CASE
NO MATTER WHO SAYS IT, THEIR WORDS WILL HAVE SOME REASONING RIGHT?
HAH?
VERY GOOD! HAVE YOU SAID EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO SAY? ONODERA-KUN?
MNN!
MNN, EATING EACH OTHER UP HOW TROUBLING THOSE TWO...
I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANY-MORE...

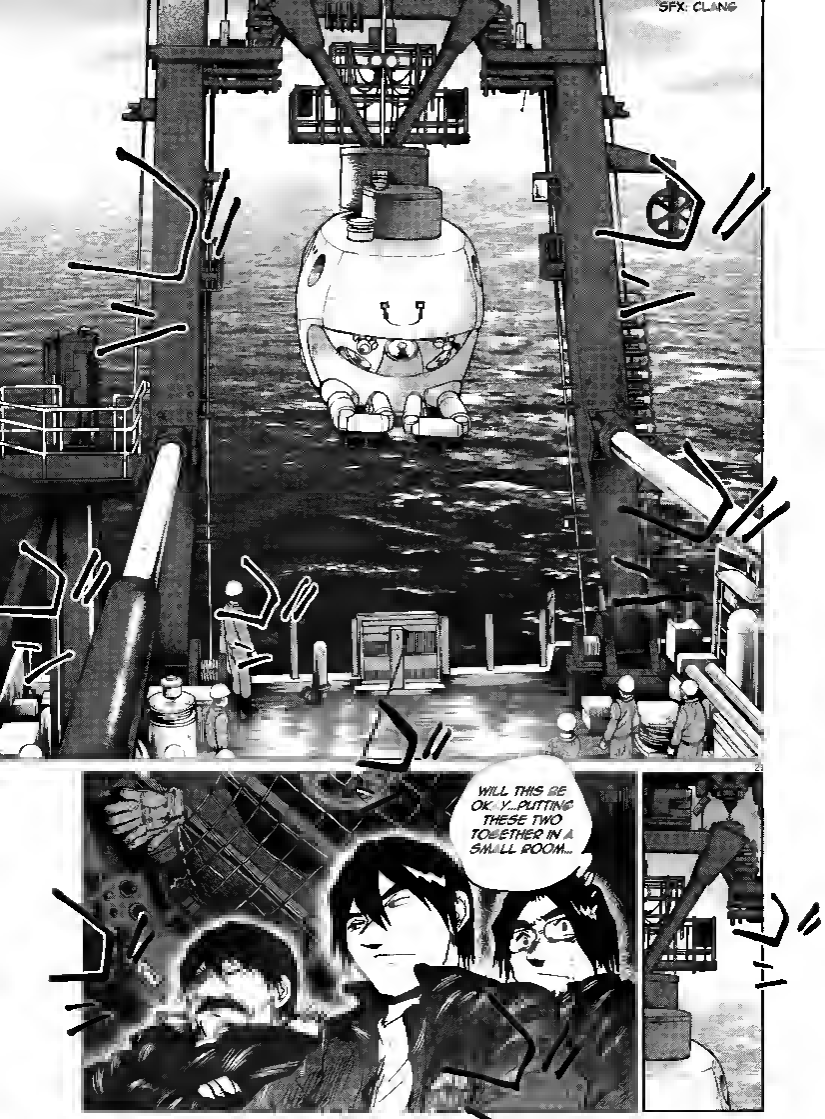
I SEE. ABOUT YOUR POINT OF HAVING NO HOPES FOR THE "COUNTRY OF JAPAN".
THIS IS SOMETHING I FEEL SIMILARLY ABOUT
BESIDES YUKINAGA, NO ONE ELSE HAS KNOWN ABOUT THIS. IN THE PAST-


NO MATTER WHAT THEY THINK OR THEIR BELIEFS IT DOESN'T MATTER EVEN IF THEY HATE THIS COUNTRY.
AS FOR WHAT YOU THINK...
AND RIGHT NOW, WHAT I WANT THE MOST IS PEOPLE WITH ABILITY LIKE YOU.


BECAUSE NO MATTER WHAT, I NEED TO GET RESEARCH FUNDS.
I'VE SOLD SOME TECHNOLOGY THAT SHOULD NEVER BE SOLD TO COUNTRIES THAT IT SHOULD NEVER BE SOLD TO BEFORE. AND THUS RECEIVED A HUGE SUM OF MONEY.

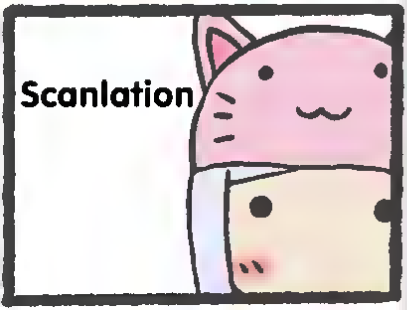
PLEASE TAKE CARE OF TOMORROW
IN ORDER TO GET A PERSON I'VE SET MY EYES ON TO BE AT MY SIDE, NOW I WILL NOT LET GO.

SFX WOOSH


SFX: CLANG
WILL THIS BE OK...Y...PUTTING THESE TWO TOGETHER IN A SMALL ROOM...

SFX: CLANG
EURGH...
"NOW I WILL NOT LET GO"
"NO MATTER WHAT THEY THINK OR THEIR BELIEFS. IT DOESN'T MATTER EVEN IF THEY HATE THIS COUNTRY."

GRADUALLY...I'M BEGINNING TO HATE THIS OSSAN EVEN MORE...



This releose wos not possible without the following stoffs:

CLEANER/REDRAWER:
Vlodoi
The Believer in Freedom

TYPESETTER:
Lono
The Minutemon

TRANSLATOR:
TSME
The Assossin

PROOFREADER:
Blue
The Neko Herding
Super 'S'